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**In the Claims**

Claims 1-19, 52, 56-58, and 60-62 are pending in the application with claims 20-31, 54, 55, and 59 canceled herein.

1. (previously presented) A method of forming a dielectric layer comprising:  
providing a substrate comprising a silicon-containing surface;  
forming a first metal-containing dielectric layer consisting of metal oxide over the  
surface, all the metal of the first dielectric layer consisting of at least one element  
selected from Group IVB of the periodic table;  
forming a second metal-containing dielectric layer consisting of metal oxide on  
and in contact with the first metal-containing dielectric layer, all the metal of the second  
dielectric layer consisting of at least one element selected from Group IIIB of the  
periodic table; and  
including the first and second metal-containing dielectric layers in an integrated  
circuit device.

2. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the metal of the  
first metal-containing dielectric layer consists of hafnium.

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3. (previously presented) A method of forming a dielectric layer comprising:  
providing a substrate comprising a silicon-containing surface;  
forming a layer of silicon dioxide overlying at least one portion of the surface;  
forming a metal layer over the layer of silicon dioxide;  
heating the metal layer and layer of silicon dioxide to a temperature of from  
about 200°C to less than 400°C and combining metal of the metal layer with oxygen of  
the silicon dioxide layer to form a metal oxide dielectric material comprised by a first  
metal-containing dielectric layer over the surface, all the metal of the first dielectric layer  
consisting of at least one element selected from Group IVB of the periodic table; and  
forming a second metal-containing dielectric layer on and in contact with the first  
metal-containing dielectric layer, all the metal of the second dielectric layer consisting of  
at least one element selected from Group IIIB of the periodic table.

4. (previously presented) The method of Claim 3, wherein the metal layer  
comprises hafnium.

5. (original) The method of Claim 4, wherein the combining comprises  
providing conditions effective for the hafnium of the metal layer to chemically reduce the  
silicon dioxide layer.

6. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, where the metal of the  
second metal-containing dielectric layer consists of one element selected from Group  
IIIB of the periodic table.

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7. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, where the metal of the second metal-containing dielectric layer consists of lanthanum.

8. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, where the forming of the first metal-containing dielectric layer and the forming of second metal-containing dielectric layer comprise:

forming a hafnium-containing layer;  
forming a lanthanum-containing layer over the hafnium-containing layer; and  
exposing the hafnium-containing layer and the lanthanum-containing layer to an oxygen comprising atmosphere and heating the hafnium-containing layer and the lanthanum-containing layer to a temperature effective to form a hafnium-containing dielectric layer and a lanthanum-containing dielectric layer.

9. (original) The method of Claim 8, where forming the hafnium-containing layer and the lanthanum-containing layer comprises physical vapor deposition.

10. (previously presented) The method of Claim 8, where the exposing comprises ion bombardment of the first hafnium-containing layer and the lanthanum-containing layer using an ion bombardment energy of about 10 electron volts (eV) or less.

11. (original) The method of Claim 10 where the heating comprises heating to a temperature from about 200°C to about 400 C during the ion bombardment.

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12. (original) The method of Claim 8, where the exposing comprises positioning the substrate within a reaction chamber and exposing the hafnium-containing layer and the lanthanum-containing layer to oxygen radicals within the reaction chamber.

13. (original) The method of Claim 8, where:

the forming the hafnium-containing dielectric layer comprises depositing hafnium to a thickness less than or equal to about 5 nanometer (nm); and

the forming the lanthanum-containing dielectric layer comprises depositing lanthanum to a thickness less than or equal to about 5 nm.

14. (original) The method of Claim 13 comprising a ratio of the hafnium thickness to the lanthanum thickness of from about 1 to 3 to about 1 to 4.

15. (original) The method of Claim 8, where;

the forming the hafnium-containing dielectric layer comprises forming a layer containing hafnium to a thickness of about 1 nm;

the forming the lanthanum-containing dielectric layer comprises forming a layer containing lanthanum to a thickness no greater than about 5 nm; and

wherein a ratio of thicknesses of the hafnium-containing layer to the lanthanum-containing layer is from about 1 to 3 to about 1 to 4.

16. (original) The method of Claim 1, where the forming of the first and second metal-containing dielectric layers comprises physical vapor deposition.

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17. (original) The method of Claim 16, where physical vapor deposition comprises electron beam evaporation.

18. (original) The method of Claim 1, where forming the first metal-containing dielectric layer and the second metal-containing dielectric layer comprises forming the layers to have respective thicknesses having a ratio of from about 4:1 to about 1:4.

19. (original) The method of Claim 1, where the first metal-containing dielectric layer consists of hafnium oxide and the second metal-containing dielectric layer consists of lanthanum oxide.

Claims 20-51 (cancelled).

52. (previously presented) A method of forming a dielectric layer comprising: providing a substrate comprising a silicon-containing surface; forming a first metal-containing dielectric layer over the surface, the first dielectric layer consisting essentially of hafnium oxide; forming a second metal-containing dielectric layer on and in contact with the first metal-containing dielectric layer, the second dielectric layer consisting essentially of lanthanum oxide; and including the first and second metal-containing dielectric layers in an integrated circuit device.

Claim 53-55 (cancelled).

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56. (previously presented) A method of forming a dielectric layer comprising:  
providing a substrate comprising a silicon-containing surface;  
forming a layer of silicon dioxide overlying at least one portion of the surface;  
forming a hafnium-containing layer over the layer of silicon dioxide;  
combining hafnium of the hafnium-containing layer with oxygen of the silicon dioxide layer to form a hafnium oxide over the surface;  
forming a lanthanum-containing layer over the hafnium-containing layer; and  
exposing the hafnium-containing layer and the lanthanum-containing layer to an oxygen comprising atmosphere by ion bombardment using an energy of about 10 electron volts (eV) or less, and heating the hafnium-containing layer and the lanthanum-containing layer to a temperature effective to form a hafnium-containing dielectric layer and a lanthanum-containing dielectric layer.

57. (previously presented) The method of Claim 56 where the heating comprises heating to a temperature from about 200 C to about 400 C during the ion bombardment.

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58. (previously presented) A method of forming a dielectric layer comprising:  
providing a substrate comprising a silicon-containing surface;  
forming a layer of silicon dioxide overlying at least one portion of the surface;  
forming a hafnium-containing layer over the layer of silicon dioxide;  
combining hafnium of the hafnium-containing layer with oxygen of the silicon dioxide layer to form a hafnium oxide over the surface;  
forming a lanthanum-containing layer over the hafnium-containing layer; and  
positioning the substrate within a reaction chamber and exposing the hafnium-containing layer and the lanthanum-containing layer to oxygen radicals within the reaction chamber and heating the hafnium-containing layer and the lanthanum-containing layer to a temperature effective to form a hafnium-containing dielectric layer and a lanthanum-containing dielectric layer.

Claim 59 (canceled).

60. (previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the first dielectric layer consists of hafnium oxide.

61. (previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the second dielectric layer consists of lanthanum oxide.

62. (previously presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the second dielectric layer consists of metal oxide.